



## Affordable housing groups participate

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Ten nonprofit companies have joined forces for Affordable Housing Awareness Week, April 20-26.

Better Housing Coalition provides creative, collaborative long-term solutions to increase affordable housing resources and revitalizes communities in metropolitan Richmond. The coalition develops and manages rental communities and also builds high-quality, affordable single-family homes for first-time homebuyers.

ElderHomes Corporation helps to improve housing and living conditions of low-income older adults and people with disabilities within greater Richmond. Projects range from providing minor home repairs and wheelchair ramps to making energy-efficiency improvements and major rehabilitations.

Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) ensures equal access to housing for all people by making equal access to housing a reality. HOME does not build homes. It builds equal access to housing choices and people's skills and knowledge.

Rebuilding Together of Richmond (formerly Christmas in April) is dedicated to preserving and revitalizing neighborhoods in the City of Richmond. Volunteers help improve the lives of low-income, disabled and elderly homeowners by renovating their houses.

Richmond Metropolitan Habitat for Humanity helps families realize the dream of homeownership. The organization along with low and moderately low-income families, local government, businesses, faith groups, schools, associations and individual volunteers and donors builds decent, modest homes that families can afford to buy through 0 percent interest mortgages offered by Habitat.

Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority providing Richmond residents with quality affordable housing and effective community redevelopment services, through partnerships with the City of Richmond, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation helps area residents obtain safe, clean and affordable housing. The Home Ownership Program provides new and rehabilitated homes within the City of Richmond and Henrico County for first-time homebuyers who meet the HUD income qualification guidelines and who have satisfactory credit history. A minimum down payment is required for SCDHC homes. The program also provides opportunities for learning about homeownership and buying a home.

The Partnership for Workforce Homes helps preserve and enhance the quality of life in the Richmond region by making sure that today, and in the future, there is a broad range of affordable housing options for the community's work force. The alliance helps central Virginia businesses, political representatives

and the general public learn about the crisis that is looming in housing costs in the region.

Virginia LISC helps transform disadvantaged and blighted areas into neighborhoods of promise. The organization facilitates urban transformation by providing real-estate financing and expertise to organizations engaged in revitalizing economically distressed communities.

Virginia Supportive Housing develops and operates single-room occupancy (SRO) housing and other housing for people who are homeless and for people with special needs. VSH also operates a homeownership and financial education program, HomeBuy5 and the Shelter Plus Care Program (S+C), to provide housing and support services on a long-term basis for homeless people with disabilities.

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